(XXXIVth YEAR.) THE (No. 1691.)

MARYLAND GAZETTE.

FRIDAY, JUNE 4, 1779.

CHARLESTOWN, *April* 20.

THE following letter and meſſage was ſent by Thomas Kelly, Eſq; major of brigade, to brig. general Williamſon, commander of the troops near fort Moore, viz.

SIR, *Davies's plantation, April 6, 1779.*

I AM ordered by col. Prevoſt to acquaint you that if you chooſe to exchange the three Indians taken by your troops, he pledges his honour that he will (on their arrival in our camp) ſend back any three ſubaltern officers of the province of South-Carolina that you ſhall name. I have the honour to be, &c. &c.

(Signed) T. KELLY, major of brigade.

SIR,

THE extraordinary treatment which his majeſty's loyal and dutiful ſubjects receive at your hands, will not permit me to omit remonſtrating to you on the impropriety of making ſo extraordinary diſtinction between the king's regular troops and ſuch of his faithful ſubjects, who, actuated by principles and attachment to the beſt of conſtitutions, have endeavoured to give a proof of it, by endeavouring to join the royal ſtandard. You cannot, Sir, have loſt ſight of the conſequence that muſt reſult from ſo cruel a treatment, a prior, a ſacred right to the allegiance of theſe men, and of every other britiſh ſubject, and the penalties attending the breach of it, ought to make the Americans cautious how, under the pretence of new made laws (which the ſtrongeſt can only obtain a ſanction for) they will put us under the neceſſity of exhibiting a ſcene of puniſhments, which the mild hand of government, and the dictates of humanity, have hitherto reſtrained. I muſt alſo mention lieut. William Butler, who ſhot the ſafeguard near Auguſta, at Mr Moore's houſe, and one Wells who mangled and cut to pieces the dead body of a perſon who, from all circumſtances, ſhould have been reſpected and held ſacred (being placed there to ſecure the property of an enemy to government) ſuch perſons, I ſay, remain unpuniſhed; the former boaſts of that deed; and (if I can truſt information offered on oath) of having wantonly killed men in their houſes, becauſe they refuſed to take arms againſt their ſovereign; the other is at liberty. Theſe acts of lawleſs brutality exaſperate the ſoldiers, and will be productive of hundred fold retaliation, which it will not be in the power of the officers to prevent, and a proper puniſhment ought to be inflicted on ſuch flagitious crimes.

A war is ſufficiently productive of calamities. I think it the duty of every man, not totally deſtitute of humanity, to alleviate its miſeries whenever it is adminiſtible. I have been often told of inſtances of your humanity, and your good treatment of ſome of our priſoners, which the fate of war has put into your hands, convinces me that if it was ſolely in your power there would be few grounds of complaint. I beg to be informed what number of priſoners you have now in your hands, and to acquaint you that we don't handcuff your people; you ſhould be cautious how many of ours are put in irons.

The laſt point which I have to mention to you is relative to depredations daily committed on the inhabitants of this province, over which I have the honour to preſide. That part of the country above Auguſta, and from thence acroſs to Ogeeche, may be equally and quietly enjoyed by its inhabitants, till leſs calamitous times ſucceed the preſent ones. If you approve of it, thoſe who favour the American cauſe ſhall be left unmoleſted, provided the loyal inhabitants are permitted to remain in the ſame manner, and reſpectively confine themſelves to the care of their plantations: You cannot but be ſenſible that ſuch a propoſal, being ſuggeſted by mere humanity (if approved of by you) will be only a temporary neutrality to be broke at any time by giving a previous notice of ten days at leaſt, unleſs you would agree to have it fixed for a limitted time. I have the honour to be, Sir, your moſt obedient, humble ſervant,

J. M. PREVOST.

Brig. gen. Williamſon, commanding the troops of the American ſtates, near fort Moore.

Brigadier-general Williamſon's anſwer.

SIR,

I AM favoured with your's, not dated, by major T. Kelly, and ſhall endeavour to ſatisfy you in reſpect to the different matters which you ſo ſeriouſly mention. With regard to thoſe people you ſpeak of as your king's dutiful ſubjects, I can aver that no perſons, who with propriety come under that denomination, have ever met with the treatment from me which you are induced to believe; on the contrary, many, who in every ſenſe come under the criminal laws of this ſtate, have been admitted as priſoners of war, none of whom were ever handcuffed or otherwiſe treated with ſeverity, farther than being kept in cloſe confinement, in the only way I had in my power. I ſhall obſerve, that two perſons who ſay they were officers in your army, viz. Aquilla Hale and Jacob Williams, the firſt for a cruel murder committed in North-Carolina before the revolution, and a robbery in this ſtate, and the other for a highway robbery previous to their entering into your ſervice; theſe, I ſay, coming immediately under the juriſdiction of our laws, I was left no choice what to do in the matter. Several others who under the name (but without the leaſt orders or ſanction for ſuch conduct) called themſelves king's men, and have daringly taken up arms againſt, and wantonly plundered the honeſt and induſtrious inhabitants of this ſtate, were properly ſecured, and delivered up to the civil law. You will ſee the bad opinion I have in regard to theſe people, when I acquaint you, that on the moſt credible evidence it has appeared that, not ſatisfied with the innumerable robberies they have for years paſt been accuſtomed to commit, before and ſince the commencement of hoſtilities on this continent, they at laſt carried their lawleſs actions ſo far as to wound and maim ſome of our reſpectable inhabitants in the peaceful hours of domeſtic ſecurity. Theſe are facts to my own knowledge: many of them have been more than once pardoned after condemnation for the moſt atrocious crimes; and I muſt beg leave to obſerve, that the lenity of our executive authority, and the interpoſition of ſome humane perſons in behalf of theſe villains, has even by themſelves been ridiculed. I am apt to believe, Sir, after reflecting on what I have mentioned, you will be ſatisfied neither cruelty nor harſh uſage of priſoners can be imputed to me. Britiſh or foreign officers or ſoldiers who, by the fortune of war, may fall into our hands, behaving with propriety, ſhall be treated with humanity and generoſity, and priſoners of war, of every claſs, ſhall have ſuch comfortable ſubſiſtence as is in my power to furniſh. One Pelcher, who had a brevet of captain from col. Campbell, and whom I admitted on parole, ſtayed about camp a few days, and then went off. At the ſame time you do me the juſtice to acknowledge the good treatment that the regular troops have received from me, I muſt ſuggeſt to you the very different treatment of the continental troops by your ſoldiers. When taken priſoners, your officers have had the privilege of diſpoſing of their property of every kind in my camp for their neceſſary ſubſiſtence; on the contrary, moſt of our officers and ſoldiers have been plundered of every neceſſary, and even the money taken out of their pockets.

With reſpect to the ſafeguard you mention, Butler inſiſts he ſhot him in his own defence; as to his killing men in their own houſes for refuſing to take up arms in defence of their country, I can poſitively aſſert no ſuch thing ever happened; had it been ſo, Mr. Butler would have been amenable to the law in this caſe, and his life would probably pay for the act. The circumſtance alluded to may ariſe from his having killed one Gaines, a deſerter from the firſt continental regiment in the ſervice of this ſtate, and who having committed all the crimes before mentioned, and others ſhocking to humanity, at laſt with another came to the houſe of a poor old man, a neighbour of Butler's (who happened to be there) in the evening; on his ſeizing the old man, and demanding his money, Butler ſhot him down; this, Sir, you may rely on as a fact, without having recourſe to affidavits, which I have no doubt may be offered by ſome of his accomplices in order to deceive you. As to the man Veſſels, who mangled the dead body of the perſon killed at Mr. Moore's, I will not offer to juſtify; and ſo far from countenancing ſuch barbarity, my indignation occaſioned my immediately ordering the fellow in irons, and ſent him down to gen. Lincoln, with a letter reciting the crime, that he might be puniſhed. He was ſet at liberty, and gen. Lincoln returned me for anſwer, that no ſatisfaction had ever been obtained for the many wanton barbarities committed by your adherents.

I agree with you, that war of itſelf is ſufficiently productive of calamities, and that it is the duty of every man not totally deſtitute of humanity to alleviate its miſeries whenever it is poſſible. It ever has been, and ever ſhall be, a rule with me to treat priſoners with humanity; and when you mention your not handcuffing our people, I would not wiſh to entertain a belief that you mean to conſider thieves, robbers, murderers, and perſons of the moſt abandoned characters, as your king's loyal and dutiful ſubjects. If I am well informed, Sir, ſome gentlemen of the moſt reſpectable characters in your army, think you have enough of ſuch banditti among you already, and for my own part, I think they are a nuiſance and diſgrace to community.

I encloſe a particular liſt of the priſoners of war. The laſt point which you mention relative to the depredations daily committed on the inhabitants of Georgia, I could wiſh you had pointed out ſome of the ſufferers, and the perſons who had been guilty of theſe facts, as I had given poſitive orders to all the parties ſent out by me againſt plundering any of the peaceable inhabitants, or moleſting them in any manner whatever, although to conſider Georgia as an enemy's country, it would only be a juſt retaliation for thoſe committed in this ſtate by col. M'Laurin, major Sharp, and many others; but it is not my wiſh to diſtreſs; nor ſhould even conſiderations of private intereſt incite my reſentment ſo far as to ruin a ſet of people, whoſe particular ſituation in a country, the ſeat of war, is already rendered deplorable. I ſhall therefore, as far as in my power, prevent them from being injured in the mean time, and in a few days will give you an anſwer reſpecting thoſe people whom you wiſh to enjoy a temporary neutrality.

I have received a few lines from major T. Kelly, acquainting me that you would exchange ſub officers for the Indians taken priſoners. Theſe people were ſeveral days ago ſent with a ſafeguard to one of our frontier garriſons, in order to be exchanged for any of our people that may be in the hands of the Creek Indians. With regard to the mode of exchange, I hope no officer of ours would wiſh his releaſe on ſuch a footing; and I am ſorry to think that ſavages ſhould be conſidered as ſo valuable allies, and could wiſh, for the ſake of humanity, which you ſeem ſo highly to priſe, that your arms were not degraded by ſo frequent application to them, to fall on the innocent and defenceleſs. Our conduct in this particular has been widely different; even offers of ſervices have been repeatedly rejected, and they have been told, that it is a quarrel in which they ought to have no part; although the method of employing them againſt an armed force and that of inciting them to the cruel maſſacre of innocent women and children, will be conſidered in a very different light by the impartial part of mankind. I am, &c.

(Signed) A. WILLIAMSON.

Lieut. col. James Mark Prevoſt.

BOSTON, *May* 13.

Laſt Friday the privateer brig Pallas, belonging to Newbury Port, returned there from a cruiſe, during which ſhe hath made two prizes, one a veſſel laden with ſalt, the other a ſhip from Liverpool, richly laden.

We are informed that the Engliſh papers taken by the Pallas, in the prize from Liverpool, mention that Pondicherry is taken by the Engliſh in the Eaſt-Indies.—That the houſe of lords had unanimouſly voted their thanks to admiral Keppel, notwithſtanding the miniſtry had appeared, thro' the whole proſecution, to be much againſt him; that Sir Hugh Palliſer, the miniſterial tool, in the perſecution of the renowned Keppel, had become ſo much the object of the indignation of the people, that nothing but a ſtrong guard could protect him; and that all the principal characters of the oppoſition, attended the admiral on his trial.

The preſent ferments in England, as well as Scotland, though they proceed from different cauſes, are both pointed againſt the Miniſtry, and may produce before long a great revolution, at leaſt in places.

Laſt Saturday a party of the enemy, from Newport, landed at Point Judith, and ſtole from thence about 500 ſheep, and between 60 and 70 head of cattle.

PROVIDENCE, *May* 8.

Laſt Wedneſday evening arrived here capt. Pardon Sheldon, who ſailed from this port for Surrinam the 20th of February laſt, but on the 20th of March was taken by two privateers, off Bram-Point, in Surrinam river, and carried to St. Vincents, from whence he was ſent in a flag of truce to Dominico, where he got a paſſage to Cape Ann. Capt. Sheldon left Dominica the 13th of April, and informs, 'that the Britiſh fleet and army at St. Lucia were in ſo ſickly a condition, that all the phyſicians of St. Vincents had been ſent to their aſſiſtance, and that great numbers continued to die daily. Count D'Eſtaing's fleet, which lay at Martinico, conſiſted of 18 ſhips of the line, beſide a great number of frigates, and ſome ſhips of the line were daily expected to arrive from France. Byron's fleet, it was ſaid, conſiſted of 22 ſail of the line, beſides frigates. Some of the French ſhips were frequently cruiſing among the iſlands, and had captured three Britiſh ſloops of war.

NEW-HAVEN, *May* 12.

Wedneſday night laſt, a party of the enemy landed at Middleſex, in Stanford, to take capt. Selleck, who lives near the water-ſide, but he being from home, they miſſed their aim; however, they took off one continental lieutenant, and three other perſons who lodg'd at capt. Selleck's.

Friday morning, about 40 men landed from the Halifax brig, on a point, near the above place, and took off about 40 ſheep and lambs.

NEW-LONDON, *May* 13.

Laſt Wedneſday night, ſome villains ſtole a ſloop, burthen about 40 tons, from a wharf in this town, and went off undiſcovered. We learn that ſhe was the next day met by two armed whaleboats near Gardiner's-Iſland, who took the veſſel and ſent her into Myſtic river; but the people got a ſhore on Gardiner's-Iſland, and eſcaped.

Sunday laſt, the privateer ſloop Eagle, capt. Edward Conkling, then cruiſing off Point Judith, took ſix ſail of veſſels, chiefly ſmall except one of them, which was loaded with Weſt-India goods.—The manning ſo many veſſels, reduced the crew on board the privateer to 15, whilſt the number of priſoners on board were 16; who taking advantage of this circumſtance in their favour, fell upon, and murdered the whole of the ſloop's crew, except two boys; many of them were mangled in a moſt ſavage manner after they had ſurrendered. They then retook one of the veſſels; but it was again taken by the Hancock and Beaver privateers, and ſent into Stonington, where the ſix prizes have arrived. The Eagle was carried into Newport. Capt. Conkling's death is much regretted by all that knew him. He was a humane and worthy man, and a brave officer.

Laſt Tueſday was ſent into port by the Hancock and Beaver privateers, the letter of marque brig Bellona (one of the noted Goodrich's fleet) mounting 12 guns, but has ports for 18. She was from Bermuda, bound to New-York, laden with Weſt-India goods, and was taken off Sandy Hook.

Sixteen ſail of ſhipping came out of Gardiner's Bay laſt Sunday, and ſtood to the weſtward; they were ſuppoſed to be woodmen bound to New-York.

Since our laſt, the ſhip Oliver Cromwell, Capt. Timothy Parker, owned by this ſtate, ſailed from this port.

NEW-YORK, *May* 15.

Yeſterday arrived the privateer brig Enterprize, capt. Jolly, belonging to this port, from a three weeks cruiſe, during which ſhe has taken three prizes, one of which was retaken off the ſouth ſide of Long-Iſland by a rebel armed ſloop of ten carriage guns and twenty-nine men. Only three brave Hibernians, belonging to the Enterprize, were on board the prize, one of them named Murphy, another Rogers, the name of the third we have not learnt; theſe gallant fellows, diſdaining to remain priſoners in the hands of rebels, concerted a plan, when they were taken on board the pirate veſſel, to demoliſh the crew, and take poſſeſſion of her; the watch word or ſignal when they were to ſet about this laudable exploit was *for riſh*; an opportunity ſoon of-

[illegible] to get their [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

(XXXIVth YEAR.) THE (No. 1694.)

MARYLAND GAZETTE.

SUPPLEMENT to the MARYLAND GAZETTE.

FRIDAY, JUNE 4, 1779. 353

TO THE INHABITANTS OF THE United States of AMERICA.

FRIENDS AND COUNTRYMEN,

THE preſent ſituation of public affairs demands your moſt ſerious attention, and particularly the great and encreaſing depreciation of your currency requires the immediate, ſtrenuous, and united efforts of all true friends to their country, for preventing an extenſion of the miſchiefs that have already flowed from that ſource.

America, without arms, ammunition, diſcipline, revenue, government, or ally, almoſt totally ſtript of commerce, and in the weakneſs of youth, as it were with a "ſtaff and a ſling" only, dared "in the name of the Lord of Hoſts" to engage a gigantic adverſary, prepared at all points, boaſting of his ſtrength, and of whom even mighty warriors "were greatly afraid."

For defraying the expences of this uncommon war, your repreſentatives in congreſs were obliged to emit paper money; an expedient that you knew to have been before generally and ſucceſsfully practiſed on this continent.

They were very ſenſible of the inconveniences with which too frequent emiſſions would be attended, and endeavoured to avoid them. For this purpoſe they eſtabliſhed loan-offices ſo early as in October 1776, and have from that time to this repeatedly and earneſtly ſolicited you to lend them money on the faith of the United States. The ſums received on loan have nevertheleſs proved inadequate to the public exigencies. Our enemies proſecuting the war by ſea and land with implacable fury and with ſome ſucceſs, taxation at home and borrowing abroad, in the midſt of difficulties and dangers, were alike impracticable. Hence the continued neceſſity of new emiſſions.

But to this cauſe alone we do not impute the evil before mentioned. We have too much reaſon to believe it has been in part owing to the artifices of men who have haſtened to enrich themſelves by monopolizing the neceſſaries of life, and to the miſconduct of inferior officers employed in the public ſervice.

The variety and importance of the buſineſs entruſted to your delegates, and their conſtant attendance in congreſs, neceſſarily diſables them from inveſtigating diſorders of this kind. Juſtly apprehenſive of them, they, by their ſeveral reſolutions of the 22d of November and 20th of December 1777, and of the 3d and 9th of February 1778, recommended to the legiſlative and executive powers of theſe ſtates a due attention to theſe intereſting affairs. How far thoſe recommendations have been complied with we will not undertake to determine; but we hold ourſelves bound in duty to you to declare, that we are not convinced there has been as much diligence uſed in detecting and reforming abuſes as there has been in committing or complaining of them.

With regard to monopolizers it is our opinion, that taxes judiciouſly laid on ſuch articles as become the objects of engroſſers, and thoſe frequently collected, would operate againſt the pernicious tendency of ſuch practices.

As to inferior officers employed in the public ſervice, we ANXIOUSLY deſire to call your moſt vigilant attention to their conduct with reſpect to every ſpecies of miſbehaviour, whether proceeding from ignorance, negligence or fraud, and to the making of laws for inflicting exemplary puniſhments on all offenders of this kind.

We are ſorry to hear that ſome perſons are ſo ſlightly informed of their own intereſts as to ſuppoſe that it is advantageous to them to ſell the produce of their farms at enormous prices, when a little reflection might convince them that it is injurious to thoſe intereſts and the general welfare. If they expect thereby to purchaſe imported goods cheaper, they will be egregiouſly diſappointed; for the merchants, who know they cannot obtain returns in gold, ſilver, or bills of exchange, but that their veſſels if loaded here at all muſt be loaded with produce, will raiſe the price of what they have to ſell, in proportion to the price of what they have to buy; and conſequently the landholder can purchaſe no more foreign goods for the ſame quantity of his produce than he could before.

The evil, however, does not ſtop at this point. The landholder, by acting on this miſtaken calculation, is only labouring to accumulate an immenſe debt by encreaſing the public expences, for the payment of which his eſtate is engaged, and to embarraſs every meaſure adopted for vindicating his liberty and ſecuring his proſperity.

As the harveſts of this year, which by the divine goodneſs promiſe to be plentiful, will ſoon be gathered, and ſome new meaſures relating to your foreign concerns, with ſome arrangements relating to your domeſtic, are now under conſideration, from which beneficial effects are expected, we entertain hopes that your affairs will acquire a much greater degree of regularity and energy than they have hitherto had.

But we ſhould be highly criminal if we did not plainly tell you that theſe hopes are not founded wholly upon our own proceedings. Theſe muſt be ſupported by your virtue, your wiſdom, and your diligence. From the advantage of thoſe ſeats in the national council with which you have honoured us, we have a pleaſing proſpect of many bleſſings approaching this our native land. It is your patriotiſm muſt introduce and fix them here.

In vain will it be for your delegates to form plans of œconomy; to ſtrive to ſtop a continuation of emiſſions by taxation or loan, if you do not zealouſly co-operate with them in promoting their deſigns, and uſe your utmoſt induſtry to prevent the waſte of money in the expenditure, which your reſpective ſituations in the ſeveral places where it is expended, may enable you to do. A diſcharge of this duty and a compliance with recommendations for ſupplying money, might enable congreſs to give ſpeedy aſſurances to the public that no more emiſſions ſhall take place, and thereby cloſe that ſource of depreciation.

Your governments being now eſtabliſhed, and your ability to contend with your invaders aſcertained, we have on the moſt mature deliberation judged it indiſpenſably neceſſary to call upon you for forty five millions of dollars, in addition to the fifteen millions required by a reſolution of congreſs of the 22d of January laſt, to be paid into the continental treaſury before the 1ſt day of January next, in the ſame proportion, as to the quotas of the ſeveral ſtates, with that for the ſaid fifteen millions.

It appeared proper to us to fix the firſt day of next January for the payment of the whole; but as it is probable that ſome ſtates, if not all, will raiſe part of the ſums by inſtallments or otherwiſe before that time, we recommend in the ſtrongeſt manner the paying as much as can be collected as ſoon as poſſible into the continental treaſury.

Though it is manifeſt that moderate taxation in times of peace will recover the credit of your currency, yet the encouragement which your enemies derive from its depreciation and the preſent exigencies demand great and ſpeedy exertions.

We are perſuaded you will uſe all poſſible care to make the promotion of the general welfare interfere as little as may be with the eaſe and comfort of individuals; but though the raiſing theſe ſums ſhould preſs heavily on ſome of our conſtituents, yet the obligations we feel to your venerable clergy, the truly helpleſs widows and orphans, your moſt gallant, generous, meritorious officers and ſoldiers, the public faith and the common weal, ſo irreſiſtibly urge us to attempt the appreciation of your currency, that we cannot withhold obedience to thoſe authoritative ſenſations.

On this ſubject we will only add, that as the rules of juſtice are moſt pleaſing to our infinitely good and gracious Creator, and an adherence to them moſt likely to obtain his favour, ſo they will ever be found to be the beſt and ſafeſt maxims of human policy.

To our conſtituents we ſubmit the propriety and purity of our intentions, well knowing they will not forget, that we lay no burthens upon them, but thoſe in which we participate with them—a happy ſympathy, that pervades ſocieties formed on the baſis of equal liberty. Many cares, many labours, and may we not add reproaches—are peculiar to us. Theſe are the emoluments of our unſolicited ſtations; and with theſe we are content, if YOU approve our conduct. If you do not, we ſhall return to our private condition with no other regret, than that which will ariſe from our not having ſerved you as acceptably and eſſentially as we wiſhed and ſtrove to do, though as cheerfully and faithfully as we could.

Think not we deſpair of the commonwealth, or endeavour to ſhrink from oppoſing difficulties. No. Your cauſe is too good, your objects too ſacred, to be relinquiſhed. We tell you truths, becauſe you are freemen who can bear to hear them and may profit by them; and when they reach your enemies, we fear not the conſequences, becauſe we are not ignorant of their reſources

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of the appearance of a few continental troops they thought proper to retreat rather haſtily, having ſecured only a part of their booty.

LONDON, *May* 20.

Thurſday arrived here a ſloop from Corke, bound to New-York, laden with proviſions, a prize to the ſhip Proſerpine.

Tuesday was this port the privateer Lady Erſkine, capt. Drew, of eight guns, taken in ſight of this harbour by the Madlock and Beaver privateers, out of a fleet of twenty-one ſail, what were bound from New-York to Rhode-Island, under convoy of the Thames, a Britiſh frigate of thirty-ſix guns.

had brought into this city, the dearer they have been; and this is one of the evils which it is abſolutely neceſſary to enquire into. But the great point is to begin.

The paper I have in my hand contains ſome reſolutions which have been drawn up and agreed on by a committee of citizens, which, with your approbation, I will read. I propoſe firſt to read the whole through, and then read it a ſecond time by paragraphs, in order to take your ſenſe thereon.—

The paper being read, after ſome amendments, was agreed to as follows:

Whereas the prices of goods and proviſions have, within the ſpace of five or ſix months, riſen to an exor-

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Will, tol. John Eyre, capt. Hepburn, major Bagh, Philip Boehm, Jedediah Snowden, Nathaniel Donnell, capt. Robert Smith, capt. Lang, Dr. Hutchinſon, William Brown, Paul Cox, Edward Pole, Thomas Cuddrop, capt. George Ord, James Skinner, John Kline, William Thorn, William Coats, tanner, Joſeph [illegible], capt. John Young, Cadwallader Dickſon, capt. Thomas Moore.

Signed by order of the meeting,

DANIEL ROBERDEAU, chairman.

The thanks of the meeting were unanimouſly returned to the chairman for his noble and diſintereſted manner of conducting the buſineſs.

...ed for them to put their intentions into execution, by seven of the rebels jumping into their long boat to fasten the tackles and get her hoisted on board; when Mr. Murphy gave the signal, and immediately knocked down the centinel and took his arms; he was bravely seconded by his two gallant companions, one of whom threw a piece of metal into the boat, which started a plank in her bottom, and then cut her painter, soon after which she and the seven rebels went down. Success crowned the endeavours of the three heroes, who after destroying twenty-four of the pirates, gave quarters to the remaining five, and then stood after the vessel out of which they were taken, which they retook, and brought both vessels into the Hook yesterday afternoon.

Capt. White of the privateer brig Spitfire, arrived here from Georgia, informs us, that fifteen hundred of the royal army, under the command of col. Maitland, crossed the river Savannah, on the evening of the twenty-seventh ult. to Purisburgh, on the Carolina side, where they surprized the rebel gen. Lincoln with two thousand congress troops, killed about one hundred and fifty, took about three hundred prisoners and obliged the remainder to run, many of them almost naked, into the woods. Capt. White has taken six valuable prizes during his cruise, one of them, on the fifth of Feb. named the St. Maria, a fine ship richly laden with indigo and tobacco. He also informs us, that capt. Slow, in an armed boat from St. Augustine, on the twenty-fifth ult. captured a brig from Calais to Charlestown, laden with salt and dry goods, the master of which says, that previous to his departure a packet boat arrived from England, which brought accounts of twenty thousand British troops being ready to embark for America, under convoy of seventeen men of war, and that their embarkation was to take place with the greatest expedition; that the French court reprobated the Spaniards for remaining supine spectators while the navy of Great-Britain are ruining the commerce of France.

WILLIAMSBURG, *May* 22.

By advices which his excellency the governor has received from the Illinois, we learn, that Mr. Hamilton the governor of Detroit, came down this spring with a party of regulars, Canadians and savages, and retook the post of St. Vincent, on the Wawbash, garrisoned by a small detachment from the Illinois: that the brave col. Clarke, considering himself as reduced by this event, to the alternative of hazarding every thing on one desperate effort, or of abandoning our western acquisitions, determined to march with his whole force consisting of about 150 men, including some militia of the place, and make a vigorous attack on the enemy. The arrangements he made for this purpose were as judicious as the enterprize itself was heroic and arduous; he found Mr. Hamilton with his party in the fort, which he immediately besieged, so closely and vigorously, that in eighteen hours the whole were made prisoners. A leaping party of Indians, which Mr. Hamilton had sent out, returned to the fort soon after the surrender of it to the American arms, with the savage trophies of their success, and instantly suffered the vengeance due to their outrages on humanity. Col. Clarke has sent to governor Hamilton, Monsieur Dechang, judge of the court at Detroit, and capt. Lemott, with about 25 prisoners. They were when last heard of at New-London, in Bedford county. The express which col. Clarke sent with the particulars of this expedition, was murdered by the savages on his way, and the dispatches destroyed: it is also said, that a very large quantity of goods brought from Detroit, for the purpose of rewarding the barbarities of their Indian allies, was taken at the same time by col. Clarke.

A letter from the captain commandant at Detroit to governor Hamilton has been intercepted, which complains that since the departure of the latter, the inhabitants were all getting traiterous hearts.

The enemy, by the last accounts, after having burnt the town of Suffolk, destroyed the provisions there, and plundered its inhabitants retreated to Portsmouth, where they are salting the provisions they have taken in their depredatory excursions to the adjacent counties.

To shew the barbarous and unmanly disposition of those invaders of our country, we submit to the public the following facts, authenticated by the testimony of one of the parties concerned. Four boys, viz. John Phipp, Thomas Walke, Thomas Lawson, and Peter Bowdoin, who were on their way from Mr. Andrews's school near Suffolk, to their parents in Princess Anne county, were overtaken by three of their light horse, and after striking one of them with a cutlass, and the most abusive language, robbed them of their shoe and knee buckles, handkerchiefs, money, and all the cloaths they had, telling them at the same time, they might think themselves fortunate in not meeting with the Hessians instead of them, as they would not only have robbed them, but would have put them to death. How are the laurels of the British valour fallen, when women and boys are now become the objects of their vengeance!

Several deserters have come in from the enemy, and inform, that their design is not to stay there long; that many others were determined to desert, on account of the bad usage they receive.

PHILADELPHIA, *June* 1.

By capt. Newton Cannon, of the schooner Lady Washington, who on Sunday night arrived in this port, in 11 days from Providence, we learn, that he heard there from several Brit sh captains of vessels, of general Lincoln's having routed the British forces in South-Carolina, somewhere about Purysburg, and killed and taken 1400 of them, but he could gather no further particulars.

SIR, *Williamsburg, May* 28, 1779.

Being in the greatest haste to dispatch your express, I have not time to give you any very particular information, concerning the present invasion; let it suffice therefore to inform Congress that the enemy's ships are nearly the same as was mentioned in my former letter; with regard to the number of the troops, which landed and took Portsmouth, and afterwards proceeded, burnt, plundered and destroyed Suffolk, committing various barbarities, we are still ignorant, as the accounts from deserters differ widely; perhaps, however, it may not exceed 4000 or 5000 men.

I trust that we have a sufficient number of troops stationed in certain proportions at this place, York, Hampton, and on the south side of James's river.

When any further particulars come to my knowledge, they shall be communicated to Congress without delay. I have the honour to be, Sir, your humble servant,

P. HENRY.

To the hon. the president of Congress.

P. S. I am pretty certain that the land forces are commanded by general Matthews, and the fleet by Sir George Collier.

SIR, *Williamsburg, May* 22, 1779.

I received the letter which accompanies this, yesterday, from South-Carolina, by express, and by desire of lieut. gov. Bee, transmit it to you for the perusal of Congress. With great regard, I have the honour to be, Sir, your excellency's most obedient servant,

P. HENRY.

His excellency the president of Congress.

Charlestown, South Carolina, May 5, 1779.

SIR,

The enemy having crossed from Georgia into this state, and by a rapid movement got between gen. Lincoln and Charlestown, are bending their whole force this way; they were this morning within 68 miles of us, and are pursuing gen. Moultrie, who with about 1500 men is retreating before them. Gov. Rutledge, with about 350 men, had marched from Orangeburg on Monday, to join gen. Moultrie, but I much fear will be too late. Gen. Lincoln intended coming on their rear, but they were at least four days march ahead of him.

In this situation I thought it my duty once more to request the aid of our brethren of Virginia. No time is to be lost. Indeed I fear any assistance will come full late. I am, with great esteem, your excellency's most obedient humble servant,

THO. BEE.

Col. John Laurens received a slight wound in the arm, in a skirmish with the enemy's advanced party yesterday, and his horse was also shot. He is in a good way. Pray let his father know this, as I have not time to write to him.

His excellency Patrick Henry, Esq;
Governor of Virginia.

By order of congress,
CHARLES THOMSON, secr.

ANNAPOLIS, *June* 4.

We are well informed, that Great Britain intends to send out a considerable reinforcement, under the convoy of a large fleet.

By a letter to his excellency our governor from his excellency the governor of Virginia we are informed, that the enemy, who lately invaded that state, with a fleet of ships, consisting of the Raisonable of 64 guns, the Rainbow of 40, the Otter of 14, and sundry other armed and unarmed vessels, commanded by commodore Sir George Collier, together with a number of land forces, amounting to 1500 or 2000, commanded by maj. gen. Matthew, evacuated Portsmouth on Tuesday the 25th ult. after committing ravages and depredations of the most cruel and unmanly sort. After their departure from Portsmouth, they drew up their whole fleet before Hampton, and by a parade of their flat-bottomed boats, threatened a descent on that place; but a considerable body of troops, under col. Marshal, were so well prepared to receive them, and maintained so firm a countenance, that they did not choose to hazard the experiment. On the 27th, about noon, they hoisted sail, and proceeded to sea. No conjecture can be made concerning their destination, from their course, but from the uncommon quantity, and particular kind of some, of their plunder, there can be little doubt, that they will return to New-York.

Extract of a letter from Philadelphia, dated June 1.

"Part of the troops under gen. Washington are in motion, and I believe will take a station nearer New-York than the present.—No late European intelligence. We have a report from Charlestown by the way of Providence, that an action has taken place in that state much in our favour.—It is attended with such circumstances as to gain the belief of the delegates of that state. The captain and crew of the vessel from Providence are Americans, who had been taken and were permitted to purchase a vessel and to sail for New-York. They have however stumbled upon the port of Philadelphia. Their story is, that the day before they left that place, a vessel with rice arrived in a short passage from Charlestown in a bye port. One of the crew, a little boy, inadvertently blabbed out that there was a great illumination where he had been. This excited the curiosity of the standers by, and upon questioning the boy further, he said it was on account of a great battle fought near Charlestown. Others of the crew, when taken before an officer, confirmed what the boy had said, and mentioned further, that the capture by the American frigates of the Jason and Maria, and the eight transports under their convoy, bound for Georgia from New-York, had thrown them into the greatest difficulties, and laid them under the necessity of making a rapid and sudden march for Charlestown, or of doing worse—1400 it is said are killed and taken. The accounts these people bring, when putting dates together, would carry this action as far back as the 13th of May, which is later than any intelligence we have had from authority. By lieut. gov. Bee's letter of the 5th of May it appears the enemy had crossed the Savannah river, and were moving on rapidly towards Charlestown, and were at that time within 68 miles; that gen. Lincoln was in their rear, gen. Moultrie in front, and gov. Rutledge at Orangeburg, with a small body of militia. If it has so happened that the enemy were attacked by their several divisions of gen. Lincoln's army at different points at the same time, it is probable they fought with success."

Extract of a letter from Williamsburg, May 28.

"The enemy have at length quitted us, after plundering Portsmouth and the adjacent country in a most cruel and barbarous manner. The merchandize of the town is carried off, and the provisions so much as to leave the inhabitants in the utmost distress and misery. They are undoubtedly returned to New-York. Suffolk is entirely burnt, together with a very large quantity of provisions, goods, &c.

"The invasion was so sudden that scarce any thing escaped them at Portsmouth. The property in any hands which was left might have sold for £. 300,000.

"I had some expectation of saving a large quantity of dry goods which I had removed up a different road, but was surprized the same night by a party of horse and foot, who kill'd or took our whole party except myself, indeed for several minutes they gave no quarter. Happily for me I got away from the midst of them, and tho' closely sought after for five or six days together, I finally got to this city, having lost my baggage, money, and most of my papers and books. I had about 30 men with me, and was betrayed by some of the tory inhabitants, who conducted the enemy to the spot.

"Is it not very extraordinary, that two or three hundred men marched above twenty miles by land and burnt Suffolk unmolested? In short, they scarcely lost a man in this expedition. I hope your people are more spirited, for I truly fear you will have a visit from them, and likely this place, during the summer.

"The enemy's force here was about 1200 or 1600 land forces, one ship of the line, one frigate, a number of privateers and armed boats, and a row-galley mounting two twenty-four pounders."

TREASURY OFFICE, PHILADELPHIA, *April* 3, 1779.

ORDERED, That all persons who have been entrusted with public money before the 25th day of March last, (and who are not accountable to the auditors of the army, or the commissioners of accounts at Albany) immediately transmit their accounts to the auditor-general for settlement, on failure whereof they will be prosecuted without further notice.

By order of the board of treasury,
JOHN NICHOLSON, clerk.

The several printers throughout the United States are requested to insert this notice, and continue it in their papers for weeks.

THERE is at the plantation of Marmaduke Simms, near Piscataway, Prince-George's county, taken up as a stray, a small bay horse, about 12½ hands high, branded on the near buttock I. K. and has one white foot behind; he appears to have been shod all round, though only one shoe now remains upon him. The owner may have him again on proving property and paying charges.

Worcester county, Maryland, May 18, 1779.

NOW in the gaol of this county, a NEGRO man called COLLIER, belonging to a gentleman (he says) living in New-Virginia, whose firname is Bell, and that he left him at Dover, in Kent county, in Delaware, some time in October, 1778: he is a small black fellow, about 25 years of age. His master is desired to come and pay charges and take him away.

w8 3 BENJAMIN PURNELL, sheriff.

FIFTY DOLLARS REWARD.

Annapolis, May 10, 1779.

LOST by the subscriber, the time when last uncertain, one State Loan-Office Certificate for 850 Dollars, No. 431, dated 24th July, 1778, payable to Mrs. Jean Stewart in three years from that date.

Any person, on delivering the abovementioned Certificate to the subscriber, or to Mr. Benjamin Harwood at the Loan-Office in Annapolis, shall have the above reward immediately paid them; and if offered for sale, those to whom it may be offered are requested to stop the same, and to make the person offering give an account how it came into their possession. It can be of no use to any but the owner, as payment is stopt at the Loan-Office.

4 JAMES DICK.

To be SOLD at public vendue, on the premises, on the 10th day of May next, the following tracts of LAND, lying within one mile of Calvert county court-house, on the main road leading to Benedict ferry,

PART of four tracts of land, containing 306¼ acres, the title indisputable. On the said land is a good shingled framed dwelling house, 20 feet by 16, two rooms and two fire-places on the lower floor, with a large brick chimney, a framed clapboard kitchen 20 by 16, a corn-house and lumber-house, a milk-house, a paled garden 80 feet square, a 40 feet tobacco-house, and one log dwelling-house; 269 bearing apple trees, and one young orchard of 217 trees, about 300 young peach trees, and a nursery of 3 or 400 apple trees, and very good swamp ground for meadow; about 150 acres of wood land, with a large quantity of timber and large poplar trees. The quality of the soil and improvements will be best known by viewing the land. For terms apply to the subscribers, who live on the said land.

TALBOT, JOHN, FRANCIS & REBECCAH WILLIAMS.

THE subscriber proposing to reprint the LAWS of MARYLAND, now in force, from BACON's collection up to the present government, has sent subscription papers to the clerks of the several counties, to give those an opportunity of subscribing who are desirous of having them. They will be done in the same manner with BACON's; stitched in blue paper, and delivered to the subscribers for ten dollars each copy.—He intended to have begun the work some time ago, but has not yet been able to procure paper fit for the purpose.—Subscriptions are taken in at his office.

5 FREDERICK GREEN.

ANNAPOLIS: Printed by FREDERICK and SAMUEL GREEN, at the OLD PRINTING-OFFICE in *Charles-Street.*

(XXXIVth YEAR.) THE (No. 1692.)

MARYLAND GAZETTE.

SUPPLEMENT to the MARYLAND GAZETTE.

FRIDAY, JUNE 4, 1779.

TO THE

INHABITANTS

OF THE

United States of AMERICA.

FRIENDS AND COUNTRYMEN,

THE preſent ſituation of public affairs demands your moſt ſerious attention, and particularly the great and encreaſing depreciation of your currency requires the immediate, ſtrenuous, and united efforts of all true friends to their country, for preventing an extenſion of the miſchiefs that have already flowed from that ſource.

America, without arms, ammunition, diſcipline, revenue, government, or ally, almoſt totally ſtript of commerce, and in the weakneſs of youth, as it were with a "ſtaff and a ſling" only, dared "in the name of the Lord of Hoſts" to engage a gigantic adverſary, prepared at all points, boaſting of his ſtrength, and of whom even mighty warriors "were greatly afraid."

For defraying the expences of this uncommon war, your repreſentatives in congreſs were obliged to emit paper money; an expedient that you knew to have been before generally and ſucceſsfully practiſed on this continent.

They were very ſenſible of the inconveniences with which too frequent emiſſions would be attended, and endeavoured to avoid them. For this purpoſe they eſtabliſhed loan-offices ſo early as in October 1776, and have from that time to this repeatedly and earneſtly ſolicited you to lend them money on the faith of the United States. The ſums received on loan have nevertheleſs proved inadequate to the public exigencies. Our enemies proſecuting the war by ſea and land with implacable fury and with ſome ſucceſs, taxation at home and borrowing abroad, in the midſt of difficulties and dangers, were alike impracticable. Hence the continued neceſſity of new emiſſions.

But to this cauſe alone we do not impute the evil before mentioned. We have too much reaſon to believe it has been in part owing to the artifices of men who have haſtened to enrich themſelves by monopolizing the neceſſaries of life, and to the miſconduct of inferior officers employed in the public ſervice.

The variety and importance of the buſineſs entruſted to your delegates, and their conſtant attendance in congreſs, neceſſarily diſables them from inveſtigating diſorders of this kind. Juſtly apprehenſive of them, they, by their ſeveral reſolutions of the 22d of November and 20th of December 1777, and of the 3d and 9th of February 1778, recommended to the legiſlative and executive powers of theſe ſtates a due attention to theſe intereſting affairs. How far thoſe recommendations have been complied with we will not undertake to determine; but we hold ourſelves bound in duty to you to declare, that we are not convinced there has been as much diligence uſed in detecting and reforming abuſes as there has been in committing or complaining of them.

With regard to monopolizers it is our opinion, that taxes judiciouſly laid on ſuch articles as become the objects of engroſſers, and thoſe frequently collected, would operate againſt the pernicious tendency of ſuch practices.

As to inferior officers employed in the public ſervice, we ANXIOUSLY deſire to call your moſt vigilant attention to their conduct with reſpect to every ſpecies of miſbehaviour, whether proceeding from ignorance, negligence or fraud, and to the making of laws for inflicting exemplary puniſhments on all offenders of this kind.

We are ſorry to hear that ſome perſons are ſo ſlightly informed of their own intereſts as to ſuppoſe that it is advantageous to them to ſell the produce of their farms at enormous prices, when a little reflection might convince them that it is injurious to thoſe intereſts and the general welfare. If they expect thereby to purchaſe imported goods cheaper, they will be egregiouſly diſappointed; for the merchants, who know they cannot obtain returns in gold, ſilver, or bills of exchange, but that their veſſels if loaded here at all muſt be loaded with produce, will raiſe the price of what they have to ſell, in proportion to the price of what they have to buy; and conſequently the landholder can purchaſe no more foreign goods for the ſame quantity of his produce than he could before.

The evil, however, does not ſtop at this point. The landholder, by acting on this miſtaken calculation, is only labouring to accumulate an immenſe debt by encreaſing the public expences, for the payment of which his eſtate is engaged, and to embarraſs every meaſure adopted for vindicating his liberty and ſecuring his proſperity.

As the harveſts of this year, which by the divine goodneſs promiſe to be plentiful, will ſoon be gathered, and ſome new meaſures relating to your foreign concerns, with ſome arrangements relating to your domeſtic, are now under conſideration, from which beneficial effects are expected, we entertain hopes that your affairs will acquire a much greater degree of regularity and energy than they have hitherto had.

But we ſhould be highly criminal if we did not plainly tell you that thoſe hopes are not founded wholly upon our own proceedings. Theſe muſt be ſupported by your virtue, your wiſdom, and your diligence. From the advantage of thoſe ſeats in the national council with which you have honoured us, we have a pleaſing proſpect of many bleſſings approaching this our native land. It is your patriotiſm muſt introduce and fix them here.

In vain will it be for your delegates to form plans of œconomy; to ſtrive to ſtop a continuation of emiſſions by taxation or loan, if you do not zealouſly co-operate with them in promoting their deſigns, and uſe your utmoſt induſtry to prevent the waſte of money in the expenditure, which your reſpective ſituations in the ſeveral places where it is expended, may enable you to do. A diſcharge of this duty and a compliance with recommendations for ſupplying money, might enable congreſs to give ſpeedy aſſurances to the public that no more emiſſions ſhall take place, and thereby cloſe that ſource of depreciation.

Your governments being now eſtabliſhed, and your ability to contend with your invaders aſcertained, we have on the moſt mature deliberation judged it indiſpenſably neceſſary to call upon you for forty five millions of dollars, in addition to the fifteen millions required by a reſolution of congreſs of the 22d of January laſt, to be paid into the continental treaſury before the 1ſt day of January next, in the ſame proportion, as to the quotas of the ſeveral ſtates, with that for the ſaid fifteen millions.

It appeared proper to us to fix the firſt day of next January for the payment of the whole; but as it is probable that ſome ſtates, if not all, will raiſe part of the ſums by inſtallments or otherwiſe before that time, we recommend in the ſtrongeſt manner the paying as much as can be collected as ſoon as poſſible into the continental treaſury.

Though it is manifeſt that moderate taxation in times of peace will recover the credit of your currency, yet the encouragement which your enemies derive from its depreciation and the preſent exigencies demand great and ſpeedy exertions.

We are perſuaded you will uſe all poſſible care to make the promotion of the general welfare interfere as little as may be with the eaſe and comfort of individuals; but though the raiſing theſe ſums ſhould preſs heavily on ſome of our conſtituents, yet the obligations we feel to your venerable clergy, the truly helpleſs widows and orphans, your moſt gallant, generous, meritorious officers and ſoldiers, the public faith and the common weal, ſo irreſiſtibly urge us to attempt the appreciation of your currency, that we cannot withhold obedience to thoſe authoritative ſenſations.

On this ſubject we will only add that as the rules of juſtice are moſt pleaſing to our infinitely good and gracious Creator, and an adherence to them moſt likely to obtain his favour, ſo they will ever be found to be the beſt and ſafeſt maxims of human policy.

To our conſtituents we ſubmit the propriety and purity of our intentions, well knowing they will not forget, that we lay no burthens upon them, but thoſe in which we participate with them—a happy ſympathy, that pervades ſocieties formed on the baſis of equal liberty. Many cares, many labours, and may we not add reproaches—are peculiar to us. Theſe are the emoluments of our unſolicited ſtations; and with theſe we are content, if YOU approve our conduct. If you do not, we ſhall return to our private condition with no other regret, than that which will ariſe from our not having ſerved you as acceptably and eſſentially as we wiſhed and ſtrove to do, though as cheerfully and faithfully as we could.

Think not we deſpair of the commonwealth, or endeavour to ſhrink from oppoſing difficulties. No. Your cauſe is too good, your objects too ſacred, to be relinquiſhed. We tell you truths, becauſe you are freemen who can bear to hear them and may profit by them; and when they reach your enemies, we fear not the conſequences, becauſe we are not ignorant of their reſources.

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of the appearance of a few continental troops they thought proper to retreat rather haſtily, having ſecured only a part of their booty.

NEW-LONDON, *May* 20.

Thurſday arrived here a ſloop from Corke, bound to New-York, laden with proviſions, a prize to the ſhip Preſident.

Sunday was brought into port the privateer Lady Erſkine, capt. Drew, of eight guns, taken a fight of this harbour by the Hancock and Beaver privateers, out of a fleet of twenty-one ſail, who were bound from New-York to Rhode-Iſland, under convoy of the Thomas, a Britiſh frigate of thirty-ſix guns.

had brought into this city, the dearer they have been; and this is one of the evils which it is abſolutely neceſſary to enquire into. But the great point is to begin.

The paper I have in my hand contains ſome reſolutions which have been drawn up and agreed on by a committee of citizens, which, with your approbation, I will read. I propoſe firſt to read the whole through, and then read it a ſecond time by paragraphs, in order to take your ſenſe thereon.—

The paper being read, after ſome amendments, was agreed to as follows:

Whereas the prices of goods and proviſions have, within the ſpace of five or ſix months, riſen to an enor-

Will, col. John Eyre, capt. Heyſham, major Boyd, Philip Boehm, Jedediah Snowden, Nathaniel Donnell, capt. Robert Smith, capt. Lang, Dr. Hutchinſon, William Brown, Paul Cox, Edward Pole, Thomas Cadrop, capt. George Ord, James Skinner, John King, William Thorn, William Coats, tanner, Joſeph Dean, capt. John Young, Cadwallader Dickinſon, capt. Thomas Moore.

Signed by order of the meeting,

DANIEL ROBERDEAU, chairman.

The thanks of the meeting were unanimouſly returned to the chairman for his noble and diſintereſted manner of conducting the buſineſs.

George Schloſſer, col.

or our own. Let your good ſenſe decide upon the compariſon. Let even their prejudiced underſtandings decide upon it, and you need not be apprehenſive of the determination.

Whatever ſuppoſed advantages from plans of rapine, projects of blood, or dreams of domination, may heretofore have amuſed their inflamed fancies, the conduct of one monarch, the friend and protector of the rights of mankind, has turned the ſcale ſo much againſt them, that their viſionary ſchemes vaniſh as the unwholeſome vapours of night before the healthful influences of the ſun.

An alliance has been formed between his Moſt Chriſtian Majeſty and theſe ſtates, on the baſis of the moſt perfect equality, for the direct end of maintaining effectually their liberty, ſovereignty and independence abſolute and unlimitted, as well in matters of government as of commerce. The conduct of our good and great ally towards us in this inſtance and others, has ſo fully manifeſted his ſincerity and kindneſs, as to excite on our part correſpondent ſentiments of confidence and affection.

Obſerving the intereſts of his kingdom, to which duty and inclination prompted his attention, to be connected with thoſe of *America*, and the combination of both clearly to coincide with the beneficent deſigns of the Author of Nature, who unqueſtionably intended men to partake of certain rights and portions of happineſs, his majeſty perceived the attainment of theſe views to be founded on the ſingle propoſition of a ſeparation between *America* and *Great-Britain*.

The reſentment and confuſion of your enemies will point out to you the ideas you ſhould entertain of the magnanimity and conſummate wiſdom of his Moſt Chriſtian Majeſty on this occaſion.

They perceive, that ſelecting this grand and juſt idea from all thoſe ſpecious ones that might have confuſed or miſled inferior judgment or virtue, and ſatisfied with the advantages which muſt reſult from that event alone, he has cemented the harmony between himſelf and theſe ſtates, not only by eſtabliſhing a reciprocity of benefits, but by eradicating every cauſe of jealouſy and ſuſpicion. They alſo perceive with ſimilar emotions, that the moderation of our ally, in not deſiring an acquiſition of dominion on this continent, or an excluſion of other nations from a ſhare of its commercial advantages, ſo uſeful to them, has given no alarm to thoſe nations, but in fact has INTERESTED them in the accompliſhment of his generous undertaking to diſſolve the monopoly thereof by *Great-Britain*, which has already contributed to elevate her to her preſent power and haughtineſs and threatened if continued to raiſe both to a height inſupportable to the reſt of *Europe*.

In ſhort, their own beſt informed ſtateſmen and writers confeſs, that your cauſe is exceedingly favoured by courts and people in that quarter of the world, while that of your adverſaries is equally reprobated; and from thence draw ominous and well-grounded concluſions, that the final event muſt prove unfortunate to the latter. Indeed, we have the BEST reaſon to believe that we ſhall ſoon form other alliances, and on principles honourable and beneficial to theſe ſtates.

Infatuated as your enemies have been from the beginning of this conteſt, do you imagine they can now flatter themſelves with a hope of conquering you, unleſs you are falſe to yourſelves? When unprepared, undiſciplined, and unſupported, you oppoſed their fleets and armies in full conjoined force, then, if at any time, was conqueſt to be apprehended. Yet what progreſs towards it have their violent and inceſſant efforts made? Judge from their own conduct. Having devoted you to bondage, and after vainly waſting their blood and treaſure in the diſhonourable enterprize, they deigned at length to offer terms of accommodation with reſpectful addreſſes to that once deſpiſed body the congreſs, whoſe humble ſupplications ONLY for peace, liberty and ſafety, they had contemptuouſly rejected, preſence of its being an unconſtitutional alliance. May theſe, deſirous of ſeducing you into a deviation from the paths of rectitude, from which they had ſo far and ſo raſhly wandered, they made moſt ſpecious offers to tempt you into a violation of your faith given to your illuſtrious ally. Their arts were as unavailing as their arms.—Foiled again, and ſtung with rage, embittered by envy, they had no alternative, but to renounce the inglorious and ruinous controverſy, or to reſume their former modes of proſecuting it. They choſe the latter. Again the ſavages are ſtimulated to horrid maſſacres of women and children, and deſerters to the murder of their maſters. Again our brave and unhappy brethren are doomed to miſerable deaths in gaols and priſon-ſhips. To complete the ſanguinary ſyſtem, all the "EXTREMITIES of war" are by authority denounced againſt you.

Pioufly endeavour to derive this conſolation from their remorſeleſs fury, that "the Father of Mercies" looks down with diſapprobation on ſuch audacious defiances of his holy laws; and be further comforted with recollecting, that the arms aſſumed by you in your righteous cauſe, have not been ſullied by any unjuſtifiable ſeverities.

Your enemies deſpairing however, as it ſeems, of the ſucceſs of their united forces againſt our main army, have divided them, as if their deſign was to harraſs you by predatory, deſultory operations. If you are aſſiduous in improving opportunities, *Saratoga* may not be the only ſpot on this continent to give a new denomination to the baffled troops of a nation impiouſly priding herſelf in notions of her omnipotence.

Rouſe yourſelves therefore, that this campaign may finiſh the great work you have ſo nobly carried on for ſeveral years paſt. What nation ever engaged in ſuch a conteſt under ſuch a complication of diſadvantages, ſo ſoon ſurmounted many of them, and in ſo ſhort a period of time had ſo certain a proſpect of a ſpeedy and happy concluſion. We will venture to pronounce that ſo remarkable an inſtance exiſts not in the annals of mankind. We well remember what you ſaid at the commencement of this war. You ſaw the immenſe difference between your circumſtances and thoſe of your enemies, and you knew the quarrel muſt decide on no leſs than your lives, liberties and eſtates. All theſe you greatly put to every hazard, reſolving rather to die freemen than to live ſlaves; and juſtice will oblige the impartial world to confeſs you have uniformly acted on the ſame generous principle. Conſider how much you have done, and how comparatively little remains to be done to crown you with ſucceſs. Perſevere; and you enſure peace, freedom, ſafety, glory, ſovereignty, and felicity to yourſelves, your children, and your childrens children.

Encouraged by favours already received from infinite goodneſs, gratefully acknowledging them, earneſtly imploring their continuance, conſtantly endeavouring to draw them down on your heads by an amendment of your lives and a conformity to the divine will, humbly confiding in the protection ſo often and wonderfully experienced, vigorouſly employ the means placed by Providence in your hands, for compleating your labours.

Fill up your battalions—be prepared in every part to repel the incurſions of your enemies—place your ſeveral quotas in the continental treaſury—lend money for public uſes—ſink the emiſſions of your reſpective ſtates—provide effectually for expediting the conveyance of ſupplies for your armies and fleets, and for your allies—prevent the produce of the country from being monopolized—effectually ſuperintend the behaviour of public officers—diligently promote piety, virtue, brotherly love, learning, frugality and moderation—and may you be approved before Almighty God worthy of thoſe bleſſings we devoutly wish you to enjoy.

Done in CONGRESS by unanimous conſent, this twenty-ſixth day of May, one thouſand ſeven hundred and ſeventy-nine.

JOHN JAY, PRESIDENT.

Atteſt. CHARLES THOMSON. Secretary.

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